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1834 SOUVENIR BOOKLET 1944  
110th Anniversary



**First Methodist Church**

MINERAL POINT, WISCONSIN

## THE INDESTRUCTIBLE CHURCH

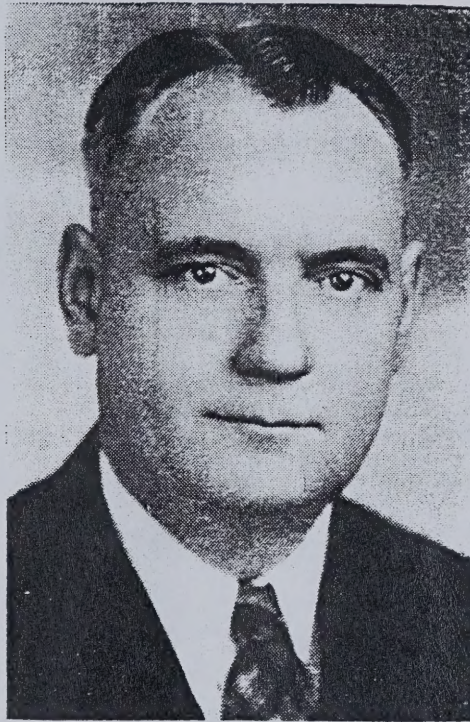
Though all the churches of the earth be blown  
To bits by high explosives from the skies  
Up from their foundations, stone by stone,  
Their walls will lift again, their spires will rise,  
Their windows stained with jewel fire will shed  
Clear light upon the upturned faces there;  
Hands will dispense again the wine, the bread,  
And at new chancels men will kneel in prayer.  
For deeper than the earth the Lord has laid  
The granite rock on which his churches stand,  
And he alone with unseen pick and spade  
Has delved and grappled with a mighty hand,  
And nothing can destroy his work, his Word,  
The Rock of Ages, Jesus Christ our Lord.

...:~Grace Noll Crowell



DEC 18 1944

## GREETINGS



Fred M. Smith, Pastor

The Mineral Point Methodist Church, proud of its 110 years of service to the community, looks forward with courage and faith to days of even greater usefulness. A cordial invitation is extended to participate in its fellowship.

### Sunday Services

10:00 a. m. Church School for all ages

11:00 a. m. Morning Worship

### Organizations

Youth Fellowship, Tuesdays at 7:15 p. m.

Men's Service Club, fourth Thursday, 7:30 p. m.

Woman's Society of Christian Service, second Tuesday, 7:30 p. m. and fourth Wednesday at 2:30 p. m.

BISHOP OF THE WISCONSIN AREA



Bishop Schuyler E. Garth

110th Anniversary Services 1944

November 16th

7:30 p. m. Historical Pageant and Commemoration Service

November 19th

11:00 a. m. Anniversary sermon by Rev. W. F. Tomlinson,  
former pastor

12:45 p. m. Picnic dinner

2:30 p. m. Bishop Schuyler E. Garth of Madison,  
guest speaker



## HISTORY OF THE CHURCH

The history of the Mineral Point Methodist Church goes back to the very earliest days of the community when religious services were conducted by "Elder" Roberts, a miner-preacher who held services in his cabin or in a building prepared for such purposes in 1828 or 1829, according to the "History of Iowa County" published in 1881 and from which much of the following information is taken. Mineral Point shared with other southwestern Wisconsin mining communities the leadership of Rev. Alfred Bronson who was responsible for founding many Methodist societies in the general region of the Mississippi river, which societies later became organized churches. According to a published letter written by Mr. Bronson "the first Methodist Episcopal Church, and the first Protestant church built in Wisconsin, was erected at Mineral Point in 1834". Later he "held the first quarterly meeting; gave the first love feast, and administered the first sacrament in it, in the fall of 1835".

This first Protestant church building in Wisconsin was built entirely of logs, not a sawed board in it except those out of which window sash and doors were made. The floor was made of split logs, smoothed with a broadaxe on the flat side. The seats were made of split logs, smoothed on the top side, and with wooden pegs driven in augur holes for legs. The building which was about 24x30 feet, stood "on the first spur or point of land that comes in from the Northwest some 15 or 20 rods from Abner Nichols' old hotel near the foot of Commerce Street."

The first class of members was William Kendall and wife, John Wallis and wife, William Phillips and wife, Andrew Remfrey, William Ball, Mr. Miller and wife, Mrs. S. Thomas and James Nancaraw. In 1837 the society had increased to 30 members. During the fall of this year a small rock church was built on the corner opposite the present structure and dedicated early in 1838. The people at this time were unable to support a regular minister, but finding that there was an opening for a public school they engaged Rev. John Mitchell of Galena to take charge of the combined duties of minister and pedagogue. He stayed for two years.

In 1840 the rude plank seats were replaced with more comfortable and attractive benches. The society increased in number so rapidly that in 1845 more commodious quarters were required and under the direction of Philip Allen Sr., an addition was added to the original structure. Mineral Point circuit embraced Mineral Point, Dodgeville, and Peddlers Creek, now called Linden. The first Quarterly



Conference was held at Mineral Point, December 24, 1837. There were present Rev. R. Haney, William Ball, William Thomas, William Kendall, Andrew Remfrey and William Webster. The records show that on December 1st, 1843, the Mineral Point Sabbath School had 56 scholars, 12 teachers and a library of 104 volumes. The first recorded meeting of the trustees was held June 21st, 1845. The members were William Kendall, Joseph Hatch, George Goldthorpe, Samuel Rusk, William Phillips, N. Coad, William Lanyon, John Pierce and Philip Allen, Sr. During this year the basement of the church was fitted up for school purposes and was also rented as a meeting room for the Odd Fellows and Sons of Temperance.

In 1848, during the pastorate of Rev. J. G. Whitford, a revolution occurred in the congregation. Fifty members seceded and subsequently organized the primitive Methodist Church. Notwithstanding this severe check, the original congregation continued its rapid progress and within a few years fully recovered.

In the fall of 1849, during the pastorate of the Rev. R. P. Lawton, the first parsonage was built in the rear of the present church edifice. In 1857 the second annual conference was held here. In 1886, during the pastorate of Rev. Lawson, the subject of a new church was first agitated. Nothing was accomplished until April 15, 1867, when a committee appointed for the purpose announced that they had purchased from the common council of the city what was known as the "Brick Schoolhouse Lot." The price was \$1,000. This much being accomplished, the congregation awoke to the necessity of the hour and subscription papers were circulated. Large amounts were freely pledged and all bid fair for a splendid success. A committee consisting of Edward Hosking, James Spencely and Rev. James M. Lawson was appointed to superintend the erection of the edifice according to plans submitted by a Chicago architect employed for the purpose. Forthwith the foundation was built and cornerstone laid and the work progressed rather slowly. It was finally completed and dedicated in 1871. The total cost was \$32,000. The church was built of durable and attractive white sandstone. The annual conference was held in the new building shortly after its dedication in the fall of 1871.

The church property on the opposite corner was sold to John Spencely and was converted into a carpenter shop which was occupied by Wasley and Charles, carpenters. Mrs. Penant occupied the basement.

During the fall of 1880, the old parsonage was sold and the Nancolas house was purchased. It was located near



the public square. The Sabbath School at this time had reached a membership of over two hundred with 22 classes and the church membership was 250. In 1887 the annual conference was again held in this church. In 1900 the church membership was practically the same as 20 years before—255, but the Sunday School membership had increased to 300. During that period the second parsonage was sold and a third one bought on High Street, which in turn was disposed of and another purchased on Washington Street. The latter was sold in 1912 to Mr. Sidney Shepherd.

In 1904, during the pastorate of W. W. Hurd, a pipe organ was purchased costing, with the necessary changes, something over \$2,000. In 1907 an addition to the church was planned to furnish a rear entrance, primary room and basement for the furnace. The cost was estimated at \$3,000. Rev. S. A. Bender was pastor. In 1912, during the pastorate of Rev. A. B. Bouquard, the interior of the church was decorated at the cost of \$1,200 and the new parsonage was built at a cost of \$5,000. And in this pastorate many new members were added, and the church led the district in the number of Northwestern Christian Advocates taken with 39 subscribers.

In September 1912 the church entertained the West Wisconsin Conference. Bishop Quale presided and preached on Sunday from an open car, one of the few in town, on the lawn of the J. W. Hutchison home in the north part of town.

In 1924, during the pastorate of Rev. J. E. Cooke, the church observed its 90th anniversary with Rev. H. A. Studebaker, a congregational pastor of Beloit, giving the address on Sunday evening in the Municipal Building.

The one hundredth anniversary was observed during the pastorate of Rev. C. E. Burdon, with a banquet at which the history of the church was read, followed by a public service at which Bishop J. Ralph Magee was the principal speaker. In this same year, 1934, the church entertained annual conference with a strong program which marked a high point in the life of the church and community.

The annual conference was again entertained by the Mineral Point Church in June, 1943, during the pastorate of Rev. F. M. Smith. The church maintained its excellent reputation as a conference host with the generous co-operation of the entire community. During the preceding year the church sanctuary was redecorated, exterior woodwork painted, and other repairs made at a total cost of more than \$2,500.

As this history is being published plans are completed for the celebration of the 110th anniversary of the church with a historical pageant on November 16th and special services on Sunday, November 19th, 1944, with Rev. W. F. Tomlinson as guest speaker at the morning service and Bishop Schuyler E. Garth, recently appointed Bishop of the newly created Wisconsin Area as the principal speaker in the afternoon. Funds received in connection with the anniversary are to be used in the making of a Sunday School room out of a storeroom that the children of the church of tomorrow may help carry on the church's second century of service.

#### LIST OF PASTORS

Name	Year Appointed	Name	Year Appointed
Thomas Haney .....	1834	<del>Elmore Yeaman</del> .....	1871
John Mitchell .....	1835	Isaac E. Springer .....	<del>1872</del>
R. Haney .....	1837	J. B. Reynolds .....	1873
H. W. Reed .....	1838	<del>P. S. Mather</del> .....	<del>1875</del>
T. C. Lopaz .....	1839	C. Bushby .....	1874
John Crummel .....	1840	M. Benson .....	1876
J. Hodges .....	1840	M. B. Balch .....	1878
T. M. Fullerton .....	1841	J. S. Thompson .....	1880
J. G. Whitford .....	1842	C. Irish .....	1881
Washington Wilcox .....	1842	E. E. Clough .....	1883
T. M. Fullerton .....	1843	A. M. Pilcher .....	1886
H. G. Brunson .....	1844	H. P. Blake .....	1887
Elihu Springer .....	1845	G. W. Horton .....	1888
J. M. Lecky .....	1846	J. H. MacManus .....	1890
J. G. Whitford .....	1848	William Balch .....	1892 <sup>May</sup>
R. P. Lawton .....	1849	F. W. Straw .....	1892 <sup>fall</sup>
J. M. Snow .....	1850	S. W. Trousdale .....	1897
A. Brunson .....	1851	George Merrifield .....	1898
John Nolan .....	1852	W. F. Tomlinson .....	1901
Washington Wilcox .....	1854	W. W. Hurd .....	1903
Henry Wood .....	1856	S. A. Bender .....	1906
James Lawson .....	1858	A. B. Bouguard .....	1911
P. S. Mather .....	1859	Roscoe A. Barnes .....	1913
Nelson Green .....	1860	Chas. W. Emery .....	1915
James Lawson .....	1861	John Birrell .....	1919
J. Knibbs .....	1861	J. Eugene Cooke .....	1921
<del>W. Wilcox</del> .....	<del>1862</del>	Wm. H. Penn .....	1925
W. B. Hazeltine .....	1863	A. D. Willett .....	1927
<del>J. C. Aspenwall</del> .....	<del>1864</del>	C. E. Burdon .....	1931
Enoch Tasker .....	1865	Ivan S. Cowman .....	1938
J. A. Lawson .....	1867	Fred M. Smith .....	1942
D. W. Couch .....	1870		

1868



**MEMBERSHIP ROLL, NOVEMBER 1, 1944.**

(All P. O. addresses are Mineral Point unless otherwise indicated.)

Names of members in U. S. military service are marked with an asterik.

Adams, Mrs. John	Clark, Mrs. Clarence
Adams, Lillian	Clauer, Bert
Adams, Florence	Clauer, Earl
Adams, Vera	Clauer, Mrs. Earl
Adams, Norma	Clauer, Harvey
Adams, Geraldine	Clauer, Mrs. Harvey
Adams, Gerald	Cline, Dale
Adams, Mrs. Gerald	Cline, Mrs. Dale
Aide, Mrs. Della	Cline, Paul
*Argall, James	Correll, Mrs. Nannie
Argall, Roxie	Cox, Willard
Arthur, Mrs. Susie	Cox, Mrs. Willard
Bartle, Mr. and Mrs. Charles	Cox, Mrs. Mina
Bartle, Henry	Currie, Miss Annie
Bartle, Wendell	625 Hillcrest Ct.
Bartle, Donald D.	Pacific Grove, Calif.
Bartle, Claire	Cushman, Robert
Bartle, Mrs. Claire	Cushman, Mrs. Robert
Baker, C. A.	Curnow, Miss Eva
Baker, Mrs. C. A.	Davis, Chester
Baker, Mrs. Wilma Adams	Davis, Mrs. Chester
Babcock, Miss Mayme	Davis, Mrs. E. J.
Beaumont, Mrs. Homer	Davis, Harland
Baumgarten, Harry	Davis, Mrs. Harland
Baumgarten, Mrs. Harry	Day, Charles
*Bechtel, George	Day, Bertha
Bechtel, Mrs. Iva Mae	Dunn, Llewellyn
Blight, Mrs. Mabel	Dunn, Mrs. Lydia E.
*Blight, Donald	Dobson, Mrs. Joseph
Breckon, Paul	Dobson, Mrs. Lena
Breckon, Mrs. Paul	Dunn, Harry LeRoy
Breckon, Marjorie	Dunn, Mrs. Harry LeRoy
Brewer, Harold	Dunn, Willie
Brewer, Mrs. Harold	Dunn, Mrs. Willie
Brown, Mrs. Mary	Enzenroth, Mrs. Ida F.
Brown, Mrs. Milton	Evans, Darlene
*Brown, John F.	Evans, Janice
*Brown, James G.	Evans, Lois
Buckingham, Mrs. Bertha	Evans, Gwendolyn
Buckingham, William	Ferrell, John
Calvert, Grace	Ferrell, Mrs. John
Campton, Mrs. Laura	Fine, Aranetta
Campton, Retta	Fine, Marjorie

Fine, Jeanette	Harris, Mrs. William
Fitzsimmons, Nelda	Harris, Mrs. Walter
Fowler, Mrs. Jane	*Harris, Harry
Francis, Kenneth	Harris, George
*Franks, Charles Earl	Harris, Mrs. George
Gant, Charles	Harris, Mrs. John E.
Gant, Mrs. Charles	Hellickson, Henry
Gant, Mrs. Margery	Hellickson, Mrs. Henry
Gant, Thomas	Hellickson, Lorraine
Gant, Mrs. Thomas	Hellickson, Nelda
Gardner, Mrs. Mary T.	Hird, Eldon
Glanville, Pierce	*Hoare, John
Grange, Mrs. Charles	Holzmilller, Robert
Grange, Mrs. Leo	Holzmilller, Mrs. Robert
Grant, Mrs. Cleveland	Hore, Stanley, H.
Godfrey, Mrs. William	Hore, Mrs. Stanley H.
Godfrey, Virginia	Horne, Mrs. Delwin
Gordon, Dale	Horne, Mildred V.
Gordon, Mrs. Dale	Howard, Raymond
Gordon, Lois	Howard, Mrs. Raymond
Gribble, Edward	Hughes, Annie Holmes
Gribble, Mrs. Edward	Hunt, Mrs. Mark
Gribble, Miss Leila	Hunt, Doris
Gunnison, Mrs. Margaret	Humbert, Mary Margaret
Haas, George	Hutchison, Miss Bessie
Haas, Fred	1550 San Pasqual Ave.
R. F. D., Dodgeville	Pasadena, Calif.
Haas, Mrs. Fred	Huxtable, Mrs. Clara
*Haas, Orville	Ivey, Mrs. Tassie
Haas, Ruth E.	Jacobs, Arthur V.
Haas, Harold F.	Jacka, Delores
Hack, Audrey	Jacka, Alonzo S.
Halverson, Henry	Jacka, Mrs. Alonzo S.
Halverson, Mrs. Henry	Jackson, Miss Belle
*Halverson, Kingsley	Jackson, Miss Udell
Halverson, Mary	Jackson, Miss Vera M.
Halverson, Margaret	Johnson, Mrs. Roxie
Hannah, Ernest C.	Kaufman, Mrs. Eva
Hannah, Mrs. Ernest C.	Keeney, Albert
*Hannah, Robert	Keeney, Mrs. Albert
*Hannah, John	Kelly, Mr. and Mrs. Joseph
Harker, William A.	Kinsman, Mrs. Ellen
Harker, Mrs. William A.	Kinsman, Miss Helen
Harris, Ellsworth	Kirkpatrick, Mrs. Gertrude
Harris, Miss Pearl	Kliebenstein, Clifford
Harris, Charles M.	Kliebenstein, Mrs. Clifford
Harris, Mrs. Charles M.	Kliebenstein, Arlene
Harris, Richard H.	Klema, Mrs. Phyllis
Harris, William	Knapp, Frederick G.



Knapp, Mrs. Frederick G.	Potterton, Mrs. Glen
Knudson, Robert Peter	Potterton, Thelma Mae
Knudson, James Perry	Potterton, Glen, Jr.
Koske, John A.	Potterton, Everett T.
Koske, Mrs. John A.	Potterton, Mrs. E. T.
Kruse, Fred	Potterton, Carol E.
Kruse, Mrs. Fred	Powell, William
Kuhnhenh, Mrs. Charles	Powell, Mrs. William
Luce, Frank	Powell, Isabell
Luce, Mrs. Frank	Powell, Genevieve
Luce, Leonard	Powell, Donald
McElroy, Mrs. Thirza	Powell, Darlene
*McLimans, Robert	Rohr, Leslie
Mitchell, Harry	Rohr, Mrs. Leslie
Delavan, Wis.	Robinson, Donna
Mitchell, Mrs. Clara	Kansas City, Mo.
Manley, Mrs. Clara	Robinson, Luella
Manley, Margaret J.	Richards, Abbie
Martin, Richard J.	Oconomowoc, Wis.
Martin, Mrs. Richard J.	Ralph, G. L.
Martin, Richards H.	Ralph, Mrs. G. L.
R. F. D., Dodgeville	Ralph, Geraldine
Martin, Mrs. Richards H.	Ralph, Ruth
Martin, Harold E.	Ralph, Eugene
Martin, Mrs. Harold E.	Richards, Charles C.
*Martin, Robert E.	Platteville, Wis.
Martin, Emily Mae	Richards, Mrs. C. C.
Martin, Mrs. Martha	Richards, Marjorie
Dodgeville, Wis.	Richards, Charles, Jr.
*McCarver, Fred	Richards, Mrs. Eliza
Nancolas, Mrs. Olive	Beloit, Wis.
Noble, Marna	*Richards, James
O'Hara, Mrs. Bessie	Richards, Joanne
Opie, Albert	Richards, Wallace
Opie, Mrs. Albert	Richards, Ward
Parkinson, William	Rundle, James
Parkinson, Stephen A. D.	Rundle, Mrs. James
Dodgeville, Wis., R. F. D.	Sommer, Alexander
Perry, Mrs. Eliza	Sommer, Mrs. Alexander
Pederson, Mrs. Leona	Spurleigh, Mrs. Donald
Pederson, Alona Ruth	Stephenson, Leslie
Pickett, Mrs. Byron	Stephenson, Mrs. Leslie
Pickett, Oren	Stephenson, James
Pickett, Mrs. Oren	Stoner, William
*Poad, Richard J.	Stoner, Mrs. William
Potter, A. H.	Springer, Clarence L.
Potter, Mrs. A. H.	Springer, Mrs. Clarence L.
Potterton, William	Springer, Paul
Potterton, Mrs. William	Springer, Mrs. Paul

Springer, Ernest  
 Sleep, Mrs. Amelia  
 Staver, Mrs. Joseph  
 Staver, Grace  
 Speich, Harry A.  
 Speich, Mrs. Harry A.  
 Terrill, Mrs. Merle W.  
 Terrill, William H.  
 Terrill, Margaret Anne  
 Teague, Mrs. Clara  
 Teague, Gladys  
 Terrill, Mrs. Jennie  
 Thompson, Mrs. Walter  
 Thrasher, George  
 Thrasher, Mrs. George  
 Thrasher, Thomas  
 Thrasher, Mrs. Thomas  
 Terwilliger, Mrs. E. J.  
 Tyrer, Howard G.  
 Tyrer, Mrs. Howard G.  
 Tyrer, Margaret Jean

Van Matre, Miss Doris  
 Wearing, Garnet T.  
 Wearing, Mrs. Garnet T.  
 Wearing, Marian  
 Weckerly, Fay E.  
 Weckerly, Dorothy  
 White, Mrs. Ruth Martin  
 Gratiot, Wis.  
 Whitford, Nina  
 Whitford, Susan  
 Whitford, Christopher  
 Whitford Mrs. Christopher  
 Whitford, Volney  
 Whitford, Mrs. Volney  
 Williams, Mrs. Edith  
 Williams, David O.  
 Williams, Mrs. David O.  
 Yeager, Chas. Howard  
 Yeager, Mrs. C. H.  
 Yeager, Ruth  
 Yeager, Donna Mae  
 Yeager, Mary Jane

Harker, John T.  
 James, Mrs. Samuel  
 Julian, Clarence  
 Mitchell, Miss Dora

Mitchell, Mrs. Nellie  
 Motley, Mrs. Fred  
 Smith, Mrs. Fred M.  
 Stephens, Mrs. Flossie

~~the names are~~

Please help to correct any errors in this list.

#### MEMORIAL GIFTS TO THE CHURCH

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In memory of Lavinia and William Rablin

##### Baptismal Font

In memory of Mrs. John Charles

##### Lectern

In memory of Delia Teague Buckingham

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## MY CHURCH

Before I was born my church gave to my parents ideals of life and love that made my home a place of strength and beauty.

In the helplessness of my infancy my church joined my parents in consecrating me to Christ and baptized me in His name.

My church enriched my childhood with the romance of religion and the lessons of life that have been woven into the texture of my soul. Sometimes I seem to have forgotten and then, when else I might surrender to foolish and futile ideals of life, the truths my church taught become radiant, insistent, inescapable.

In the stress and storm of adolescence my church heard the surge of my soul and she guided my footsteps by lifting my eyes toward the stars.

When first my heart knew the strange awakenings of love my church taught me to chasten and spiritualize my affections; she sanctified my marriage and blessed my home.

When my heart was seamed with sorrow, and I thought the sun could never shine again, my church drew me to the Friend of all the weary and whispered to me the hope of another morning, eternal and tearless.

When my steps have slipped and I have known the bitterness of sin, my church has believed in me and wooingly she has called me back to live within the heights of myself.

My church calls me to her heart. She asks my service and my loyalty. She has a right to ask it! I will help her do for others what she has done for me. In this place in which I live, I will help her keep aflame and aloft the torch of a living faith.

—William Henry Boddy











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